(b) whether some suggestions have been received from concerned States in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for CSS

3904. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government allocates funds to State Governments/UTs for Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

(b)if so, the details of funds allocated to Rajasthan, Orissa, Bihar, UP, MP,'West Bengal, Gujarat, Punjab, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Delhi, scheme-wise, department-wise, amount-wise and year-wise since 2001-02 till date;

(c) the criteria which has been laid down by Central Government for allocation of funds under CSS and whether they feel satisfied with utilization of funds; and

(d) if not, what steps Government have taken to ensure that such funds are fully utilized for the purpose it is made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Allocation for Plan Schemes are made by Planning Commission to the Union Ministries which include provision for Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). Release to the States for CSS are made in installments by Administrative Ministries concerned. The details of releases about these schemes are available with the Administrative Ministries concerned and in a few cases it is readily available on their website. However, time series data is not being maintained at a central place by any single agency.

(c) and (d) The criteria for allocation of funds under CSS to individual States is finalized by the Ministry in consultation with the State Governments

and Planning Commission. The monitoring of actual utilization of funds by State Governments is done by the administrative Ministry.

Mahatma Gandhi Backward Regions Development Fund

3905. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Mahatma Gandhi Backward Regions Development Fund;

(b) the criterion for identifying any region as Backward;

(c) whether the district or State or Panchayat would be designated as Backward;

(d) whether any scheme has been mooted to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi; and

(e) the steps proposed to develop more such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The name of the scheme, approved in 2006-07, for development of identified backward districts is the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) and not the Mahatma Gandhi Backward Regions Development Fund.

(b) The Districts Component of the BRGF covering 250 districts includes all the 200 districts covered by National Rural Employment Guarantee-Act (NREGA) in its first phase and 170 districts identified by the Inter-Ministry Task Group on Redressing Growing Regional Imbalances as backward. The criteria used in identification of districts include 17 parameters, namely, percentage of SC population, percentage of ST population, female literacy rate, ratio of secondary schools to population of specific age group, gross enrolment ratio for class l-VIII (age 6-13), per capita credit, per capita deposits, percentage of agriculture labourers, agriculture wages, output per agricultural worker, crude death rate, infant mortality rate, institutional delivery, full immunization, percentage of households without electricity, percentage of households with bank services and percentage of households with drinking water source beyond 500 metres.